

What is claimed is:

1. A device for treating dysphonia comprising:
a pair of supporters each made of titanium or an alloy thereof for supporting a corresponding one of edges incised at the midline of thyroid cartilage ; and
a connector made of titanium or an alloy thereof, for jointing the pair of supporters apart from each other.
2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the alloy has biocompatibility.
3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the each supporter has a substantially J-shape by bending a plate of titanium or an alloy thereof into two parts having a different length from each other.
4. The device according to claim 1, wherein said each supporter consists of an anterior supporting part to be disposed on an anterior part of the thyroid cartilage and a posterior supporting part to be disposed on a posterior part of the thyroid, and the anterior supporting part is spaced apart from the posterior supporting part by a distance (t) ranging from 2 to 4 mm.
5. The device according to claim 3, wherein the two parts are spaced apart from each other by a distance (t) ranging from 2 to 4 mm.
6. The device according to claim 1, wherein a width of the connector is

adjustable such that the distance (D) between the two supportors ranges from 2 to 6 mm.

7. The device according to claim 6, wherein the supporter and the connector are individually formed, and the device further comprises a holder for holding one lateral end of the connector being mounted on an outer curved portion of the J-shaped supporter.

8. The device according to claim 7, wherein the connector is a replaceable plate made of titanium or an alloy thereof and is 2 to 6 mm in width between the lateral ends held by the corresponding holder.

9. The device according to claim 7, wherein the connector is attached to the holder with a screw or pin.

10. The device according to claim 1, wherein each supporter is formed with through-hole for passing suture therethrough.

11. The device according to claim 3, wherein each supporter is formed with through-hole for passing suture therethrough.

12. A method of treating disphonia using the device of claim 1, the method comprising the steps of :

incising thyroid cartilage at the midline thereof ;

keeping the incised edges of the thyroid cartilage transversely spaced apart from each other by such a sufficient distance as to prevent excessively

tight closure of the glottis ; and

supporting the each edge by the corresponding supporter and securing the distance by inserting the connector between the edges.

13. A treating method according to claim 12, wherein the supporter of the device has a substantially J-shape by bending a titanium plate into two parts having different length from each other, and the supporting step is conducted such that said longer part than the other part of the supporter is set on a anterior part of the thyroid cartilage and the shorter part than the one part of the supporter is set on a posterior part of the thyroid cartilage.

14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the each supporter is formed with a through-hole and further comprises the step of fixing the supporter to the thyroid cartilage by passing a suture through the hole thereof.

15. A method of treating disphonia using the device of claim 6, the method comprising the steps of :

incising thyroid cartilage at the midline thereof ;

supporting one of the incised edges of the thyroid cartilage by the corresponding supporter ; and

adjusting a width of the connector to a distance sufficient to prevent excessively tight closure of the glottis for fixation.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the each supporter is

formed with a through-hole and further comprises the step of fixing the supporter to the thyroid cartilage by passing a suture through the through-hole thereof.